



# The Ontario Argus.



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## OWYHEE AND MALHEUR PROJECTS FOREMOST

**Portland Commercial Club Presses Claims as Being Most Feasible.**

The following resolutions were passed last week by the board of governors of the Portland Commercial club and show those people are on the job and are going to keep busy until something is accomplished.

All of the Commercial bodies of this county should show an equal interest and keep the matter before the secretary of the interior, the delegates in congress and the reclamation commissioners. It is only by keeping everlastingly at it that anything worth while is accomplished.

Whereas, the Owyhee and Malheur Irrigation projects are universally recognized as being the most attractive in the entire west from the point of view of the low cost of reclamation, bountiful water supply, fertility of the soil, climatic advantage and availability to transportation and markets, and

Whereas, in the apportionment of reclamation funds Oregon has been discriminated against in that only a small proportion of her contribution to the fund has been expended in this state, while in other states have been expended many times their respective contributions, and

Whereas, the people of Oregon are greatly encouraged by the assurances given by the secretary of the interior that justice will be done to Oregon in future apportionments.

Therefore, be it Resolved, by the board of governors of the Portland Commercial club that we appeal to the Honorable Franklin K Lane, secretary of the interior, to order immediate investigation of the Owyhee and Malheur projects of south eastern Oregon with a view of including the same in the government plans for Oregon, and

Be it Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forthwith submitted to the secretary of the interior and to the congressional delegation in Washington with the respectful request for its early consideration.

Board of governors of Portland Commercial club.

John Burgard, Vice President.  
J. Fred Larson, Secretary.

## C. T. PRALL VISITS SALEM IN INTEREST OF WATER USERS

C. T. Prall, of Ontario, was conferring with State Engineer Lewis last week with reference to the distribution of the waters of Willow creek during the coming season. He desired an experienced water master to be appointed from some other county. His attention was called to the law providing that water masters be selected from residents of the county and that Edward E Kendall, who was recommended by the County Court and the water users, had already been appointed. To prevent a recurrence the difficulties of last season, the water master must act promptly to prevent the illegal storing of water, as once this is accomplished, litigation must be resorted to, to ascertain the amount to be turned loose.

## COUNCIL HOLDS A REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY NIGHT

At the regular council meeting Monday evening the officers made their reports. The usual liquor licenses were issued and bills allowed.

Council adjourned to Tuesday evening.

Relative to estimates for lateral sewers it was resolved that bids would not be received for over 90 per cent of the estimate made by Green and company who are retained as engineers.

An ordinance was passed concerning the lateral sewers.

A dog ordinance was passed requiring all dogs to be muzzled after March 9, or be killed by the marshal.

An ordinance was passed regulating the plumbing done, requiring permits to be taken out before connections can be made.

## MALHEUR COUNTY COMMERCIAL CLUBS ARE WAKING UP

Recently the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce was reorganized with a number of the farmers as members. The Ontario Commercial club was reborn with new life by the election of new officers and the appointment of a number of committees and also provision for regular meetings to be held of the members.

Last week the Vale Commercial club passed some resolutions and got into the game in good shape.

The Juntura and the Jordan Valley clubs are also alive and if all of the clubs of the county will work together it will be easy to accomplish something. Why not have delegates from the different clubs meet at some central point?

### ADMIRAL DEWEY



Admiral Dewey, whose statements in his autobiography concerning actions of the German admiral at Manila has provoked a reply from Admiral von Diederichs.

## GERMAN SAYS THAT DEWEY WAS READY

Berlin.—In a statement of 11,000 words, Admiral von Diederichs replied to Admiral Dewey's version of the international incidents in Manila bay in 1898. He says Admiral Dewey threatened the Germans with war if they did not cease interfering with blockade regulations.

Admiral Dewey is declared to have been laboring under great tension. British interests are accused of fanning the flame. Admiral Diederichs concludes with the startling statement:

"It was even related that Admiral Dewey had already worked out a plan for the destruction of the German ships."

The German admiral says that when Flag Lieutenant von Bintze visited Admiral Dewey, this happened:

"Admiral Dewey gradually talked himself into a passion. He said, 'Why, I shall stop every vessel, whatever may be her colors. And if she does not stop, I shall fire at her. And that means war, do you know, sir?'"

Admiral von Diederichs makes the comment that Admiral Dewey must have known a declaration of war did not depend on either admiral. He attributes Admiral Dewey's conduct to nervousness arising from the weight of responsibility resting on him.

## NEW YORKERS PAY MUCH

Income Tax Returns Reveal That New York's Are Largest.

New York.—Amazing figures testifying to the stupendous wealth of New York millionaires are contained in the income tax reports that are made to the collector of internal revenue in this city.

Notwithstanding the strict injunction to secrecy imposed by the commissioner of internal revenue, it was learned that 29 residents of New York city will pay approximately \$8,330,000 in taxes. This is about 8 per cent of the total of \$115,000,000 which the government expected would be raised from the personal income tax.

## FRUIT AND POTATO ADVOCATES TALK

**A Very Interesting Meeting was Held at Chamber of Commerce Rooms Friday Evening and Potato Growers Organize.**

On Friday evening W. N. Yost, one of the directors of the North Pacific Fruit Distributors association addressed a meeting in the Chamber of Commerce, explaining the form of organization and what they accomplished for the growers in six months.

The business is handled by men who are recognized experts in their lines and maximum of efficiency is thus gained. Their means of information regarding crop and market conditions extend to all parts of the globe and they are at all times in touch with the actual value of the fruit they have to market and set the price on it, while under former organizations and conditions the brokers and middlemen set the prices at which they were willing to settle. There is no danger of over production as the South America and Asiatic countries can take more apples than are raised at present and there are other markets that have not been entered because there is not fruit enough produced to require it.

John U. McPherson, who has charge of the Potato Growers' association addressed the meeting from the potato standpoint and proceeded to organize the growers into a local association.

At present the association has two grades one in sacks and the others wrapped in paper and packed in boxes.

All packages contain the number of the grower and is inspected several times before it reaches the consumer so there is little chance of a bad pack getting past all the inspectors and when it is found that a grower is not dealing fair with the association he is dropped from membership. There are no dues or membership fees, the crop is headed at actual cost to the association. The officers are paid salaries.

The local organization starts off with the following officers: President, Charles Adams; vice president, L. D. Gordon; secretary, E. A. Wisdom, who with C. W. Boreland, and E. B. Conklin, compose the board of directors. Ten cars of potatoes were signed up, but many more cars will be signed up between now and next summer.

These men will be back later and organize the fruit growers into an association. The association is arranging to handle sacks and seed for the members and assist them in producing a marketable article at a time when the market is not flooded with potatoes from other sections.

## SEVERE BLIZZARD IN EAST IS WIDESPREAD

New York.—With temperatures rising and fair weather promised, New York and vicinity began to emerge from the storm which railroad and telegraph company officials assert has been the most destructive in this section of the country since the memorable blizzard of 1888.

Reports from other cities showed the damage caused by wind, snow, rain and sleet to be widespread. From Cleveland on the west and Baltimore on the south, to the Canadian and Nova Scotian borders, the storm has been general. In New England further damage is expected from rivers and streams swollen by melting ice and snow. In and near New York 11 persons perished and several fatalities were reported elsewhere.

The train delays have interrupted the transportation of mails and have left the city facing a possible shortage of milk, meat and provisions. A coal famine is threatened because of the snow-filled streets.

**Bags Found: \$200,000 Lost.**  
Paris.—A bag stolen from a post-office delivery wagon in the Rue Chaucet and which contained \$200,000 in cash, was found empty in a lot in Romainville.

## DEVELOPMENT ON OIL WELL BLOCKED

**Few Stockholders Holding Back are Retarding Work And Stock May Become Valueless as the Result of Delay in the Matter.**

Much has been published and said about what was going to be done with the Ontario Oil and Gas well and other oil and gas properties in this section, but up to the present no headway has been made toward getting the matter in shape to handle.

A proposition was made to the officers of the Ontario company based on 51 per cent of the stock of the old company, but there are a number of the stockholders of the old company, who refuse to recognize their stock as valueless at present and in order for it to have any value it is necessary to either make a cash assessment to carry on the work or get some one who is willing to go ahead for a per centage of what they may be able to develop.

These stockholders have not turned in their stock and are blocking the possibility of any development work along a stock basis.

Many persons who purchase stock in a development company imagine they have made an investment, ignoring the fact that the stock would be worth many times more if the purchase was in a proven proposition instead of an attempt to develop something of value. When these development companies fail to secure values, such purchasers will not acknowledge that their stock is valueless and until they do it will be impossible to proceed with the development work unless a cash assessment is made.

If the stockholders ever hope to make their stock valuable they must submit to either a stock or cash assessment and the sooner they act the sooner the directors will be able to go ahead and try to do something.

## SEE THE BIG STATE IN 1915 IS THE APPEAL SENT OUT

"See the big state and not the big city" is the appeal to be made by the business men of Portland to the people who will come west during 1915. Unless a vigorous campaign is conducted nearly all the exposition travel will be direct from San Francisco to Portland with no stopovers in either western or eastern Oregon.

To perfect plans for an energetic campaign to influence travelers to visit the smaller communities and see the state itself rather than spend all of the time devoted to Oregon in the city of Portland, a meeting will be held in the parlors of the Portland Commercial club on Thursday, March 12. Delegates will be present from all the communities which were represented at the Development convention recently held in Eugene. Also, at this meeting, plans will be laid for a big convention to be held in the near future in the city of Salem, at which all the counties of the state will be represented.

## STATE DAIRY COMMISSIONER TO SPEAK AT GRANGE MEETING

Prof. S. M. Shrock, state dairy commissioner and a practical dairyman, will speak on dairying at the Boulevard grange hall next Saturday evening, March 7. On Thursday evening, March 12, Prof. E. C. Hodges, of the University of Oregon, will be at the grange hall to deliver his famous illustrated lecture on "Country Life."

Both of these men are exceptional speakers and have been listened to by large audiences wherever they have appeared. In fact, it is an unusual event for either of them to address an audience in so small a community as the Boulevard. It is believed, however, that the enthusiasm shown by the community in the past few weeks warrants securing the best lectures. Both lectures will be free and the public is cordially invited to attend.

## JORDAN VALLEY IRRIGATION PROJECT IS BEING PUSHED

Fred J. Palmer, of Jordan Valley, was in Salem on Wednesday of last week, conferring with State Engineer Lewis, with reference to the construction of the Jordan Valley Irrigation company's Carey Act project. Mr. Palmer is president of the company and states that 80 per cent of the construction work on the feed canal is completed and that construction work on the Antelope Flat reservoir is progressing favorably. It is proposed to divert the waters of Jordan creek and store the same in the Antelope Flat reservoir for the irrigation of 40,000 acres. Mr. Palmer states that water will be available for part of these lands during the coming season.

### CHARLES W. MURPHY



Charles W. Murphy, former owner of the Chicago National league team, over whom a bitter fight was waged because of his dismissal of Johnny Evers.

## DEMAND OF BRYAN REFUSED BY MEXICAN

Nogales, Sonora.—General Carranza declined to furnish information to the state department at Washington regarding the killing at Juarez of the British subject, William S. Benton. At the same time he gave assurances to Secretary Bryan that he would investigate the disappearance near Juarez of Gustav Bauch, an American citizen.

This strongly defined stand came after three days of negotiation between the American secretary of state and constitutionalists' commander in chief, through Frederick Simpich, American consul at Nogales, and Yaldro Fabella, acting secretary of foreign relations in Carranza's provisional cabinet.

The stand was taken by the revolutionary leader that the death of Benton, a Briton, should be taken up through the diplomatic channels of his country.

In the written message to Secretary Bryan which was addressed to Consul Simpich, Carranza did not say that any investigation of the Benton case was being made on his part. However, simultaneously with the two notes to Washington, Secretary Fabella issued an official announcement saying that the Benton case was being investigated for the satisfaction of the constitutionalist party.

El Paso, Tex.—The trip of the Benton investigation commission to Chihuahua was suddenly postponed shortly before the commissioners were about to take the train.

While confidentially it was felt Carranza's attitude delayed the departure of the commissioners, it was explained by officials here that receipt of instructions from the state department to postpone their mission was coincident with the failure of the commission to obtain a regular passenger train for Chihuahua, controlled by the rebels.

**L. W. Hill Succeeds Gray.**  
St. Paul, Minn.—Louis W. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern railroad, will become president of the road, to succeed Carl R. Gray, resigned, it was announced here.

## TAXPAYERS MEET WITH COUNTY ASSESSOR

**At Vale And Reach An Agreement For a Lower Valuation on Land**

A large delegation of taxpayers of the county went to Vale last Thursday and had a conference with the county assessor in regard to the assessing of the county.

It was pointed out that the valuation last year was higher than the average throughout the state and that there were many tracts of land being sold for much less than it was assessed at. It was also brought out that there should not be a blanket assessment made, but each individual tract should be listed according to its value. The matter of assessing mortgage notes was also discussed it being shown that it meant double taxation.

The sheriff made a talk to the delegates and agreed on a lower valuation, but thought the law in regard to mortgage notes should be enforced.

## MALHEUR PIONEER DEPARTS THIS LIFE

**A. B. McPherson, Superintendent of Schools Dies at Holy Rosary Hospital After Lingering Illness.**

A. B. Macpherson, the county superintendent, died last Friday morning and the funeral was held from the Baptist church on Saturday afternoon, P. Monroe Smock, a life long friend of the deceased, making a scholarly address.

Mr. Mac was known throughout this and adjoining counties, where his sunny smile and hearty laugh will be missed. His nature was such that only the bright side of life was brought to view and he spread sunshine and cheer wherever he went.

It is given to but few men the ability and opportunity to do the good that was his pleasure. His greatest delight was in the school room with the youngsters, teaching the higher ideals and the essentials of a practical life.

A. B. Macpherson was born in Glasgow, Scotland, March 30, 1839. He came to America in 1851 and settled in Canada and in 1864 moved to California. He married Mary Jane Freeman in Los Angeles, in January 1876; was ordained a Baptist minister in California; came to Payette in 1883 where he taught the first public school and also preached the first sermon in that town, afterwards being called to Caldwell a pastor of the Baptist church there.

Mr. Macpherson came to Malheur county 31 years ago and has resided here continuously up to the time of his death. He leaves a devoted wife and nine children, seven daughters and two sons, Mrs. E. J. Beam, Mrs. W. H. Beam, Ironside; Mrs. Frank McKee, Weiser; Mrs. H. E. Kyes, Willow, California; Mrs. Ploughoff, Mrs. Gladys Young, Miss Uberta Macpherson, Ontario; Ross Macpherson, of Emmett and Grover of Ontario. Mrs. Jessie Sauve, a daughter of a former wife is living at Cornwall, Ontario, Canada.

As a token of respect the following county officials acted as pallbearers: County Judge McKnight, Sheriff Kerfoot, County Clerk Huston, County Treasurer Weaver, Assessor Hill and Deputy Assessor Gillam.

**Linn County Will Go Into the Past.**  
Albany.—To ascertain the origin of the names of towns, streams and mountains, and to look up all the historical sites throughout the county, is the plan formulated at a meeting of the Linn County Historical society.

**Announce Strawberry Festival.**  
Roseburg.—This year's annual Roseburg strawberry carnival will be held on May 21, 22 and 23. The committee in charge of the 1914 carnival announces that several novel features are under consideration.